THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b). Yes Sir. Shri Rakesh Kumar, Joint Secretary (Policy Planning), Ministry of External Affairs represented India at the International Conference on the Indian Ocean Community held in Tehran from November 10-12,1996.

(c) The Conference called for promoting cooperation including through existing organisations in the Indian Ocean region. The Conference recommended convening of workshops on topics like export-import banks, refinery companies, transport companies, insurance companies, commercial banks, stock exchanges and commodity boards, national electricity and pipeline grids, steel and non-ferrous companies, trading companies, etc. It also recommended the convening of an annual conference to coincide with the workshops. The Conference urged governments to focus on problems of illicit drug trafficking, money laundering and illegal proliferation of arms with a view to resolving them, as well as investigation of possible dumping of radioactive waste in the Indian Ocean.

Representations from JAC of KVS

2484 SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR :
SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received some representations from Joint Action Committee of Associations of Employees of KVS detailing their grievances and pressing for their redressal in September 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any bilateral negotiations have since been held with the JAC;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof, and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A respresentation has been received from Joint Action Commitee, an unrecognised body, in September, 1996. The main demands are representation of employees' association on Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan and its Board; revival of the Transfer Committee; extension of special benefits and allowances to Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan employees posted in North-East Region; increase in internal promotion quota; change in Recruitment Rules for the post of Principal; retionalisation of transfer policy; introduction of more elective subjects at +2 stage in Kendriya Vidyalayas; career advancement to Group 'C' & 'D' employees; regularisation of adhoc services; recognition of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan Group 'D' Employees Association; reduction in duty hours of Chowkidars etc.

(c) to (e). No negotiations have been held with the Joint Action Committee. However, similar demands raised by the recognised associations have been/are discussed in the meetings with them from time to time.

Sati Cases

2485. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Sati cases in the country since Independence;

(b) whether those responsible for the crime have been prosecuted;

(c) if so, the verdict in each case; and

(d) the Government's reaction thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) to (c) The National Crime Records Bureau has information only as to the number of cases reported under the Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act during 1989 to 1995, which is as under :

S.No	Year	Cases reported
1	1989	36
2.	1990	52
3	1991	17
4	1992	1
5	1993	5
6	1994	2
7.	1995*	2

* Figures from Bihar, Rajasthan and Daman & Diu are upto May, October and November, 1995 respectively

(d) There has been a significant decline in the number of such cases in recent years.

Strike at AIIMS

2486. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some patients died in AIIMS due to inadequate treatment arising out of lack of medicines and equipments and consequently doctors of the Institute went on one day strike recently;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry into the incident has been made and remedial action taken; and